Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Mourne Mountains

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 20 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Thursday 21 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 19 Dec 2023 at 15:44

Confidence: High confidence for unsettled weather and strong winds throughout. High confidence for severe gales or storm force winds on summits on Thursday. There is some uncertainty about the exact timing of frontal rain and associated higher freezing levels later on Friday into Saturday.

Headline for Wednesday 20 Dec 2023: Turning cloudier and wetter through the morning. Very windy. Bitterly cold.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 20 Dec 2023

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** Low Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 700m

Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Sleet showers (night)	Cloudy	Cloudy	Dull	Light rain	Drizzle	Dull	Drizzle
Precipitation probability							
20%	10%	20%	20%	30%	30%	30%	30%

Forecast for Wednesday 20 Dec 2023

Weather: Isolated showers in the early hours. Widespread low cloud arriving from the west after sunrise, with persistent drizzle or outbreaks of rain lasting the rest of the day. Some drier conditions and cloud breaks possible to the lee of high ground. Very strong to gale force west to west-north-westerly winds and low cloud throughout will give a significant wind chill.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 700m: 40%.

Low cloud and visibility: Brief spells of good visibility between showers at first. Widespread cloud with bases 600-800m arriving during morning with drizzle on and off will bring poor visibilities.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Wednesday 20 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
600	37/52 W	37/52 NW	37/52 W	40/56 W	40/56 W	42/59 NW	41/58 W	40/57 W	45/64 W
300	19/34 W	20/36 NW	19/35 W	23/40 W	23/40 W	25/43 W	25/43 W	25/43 W	28/48 W
Valley	15/32 W	16/34 NW	15/33 W	18/38 W	18/38 W	20/40 NW	20/40 W	20/39 W	22/44 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
600	3/-4	4/-3	4/-2	5/-2	5/-2	6/-1	6/-1	6/-0	6/-0
300	6/1	6/1	7/2	7/2	7/3	8/3	8/4	8/4	8/4
Valley	7/3	7/4	8/4	8/5	9/5	9/5	9/6	10/6	10/6
<< Freezing Level*	1200m	1200m	1400m	1400m	1800m	1900m	1900m	2300m	2400m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Gusts in excess of 50mph will make progress difficult, particularly over summits and ridges. A combination of strong winds, low cloud and drizzle or outbreaks of rain will give a significant wind chill and unpleasant conditions.

Forecast for Thursday 21 Dec 2023

Weather: Winds strengthening overnight to become widespread west-north-westerly gales to low levels, with severe gales on summits. These easing somewhat through the afternoon and evening. Widespread rain and low cloud clearing around sunrise. Scattered heavy showers follow for a time throughout the day, before more cloud and longer spells of rain arrive again from the south through the evening.

Maximum wind: West-north-westerly winds with means widely 40-50mph and gusts of 60-70mph through the morning, reducing to means of widely 30-35mph and gusts of 55-60mph in the afternoon and evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 700m: 10% at first, improving to 50% during daylight hours, falling to 30% later.

Low cloud and visibility: Widespread low cloud and drizzle with poor visibilities at first and in the evening. Cloud amounts variable and fast-changing in showers, with broken cloud bases occasionally 600-800m and very poor visibilities in showers. Some bursts of excellent visibility outside of showers.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 8-10 Celsius all day.
At 700m: Plus 5 Celsius falling to Plus 3 Celsius later.
Freezing level: Above summits all day.

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